



Bruce Rauner, Governor
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NEWS RELEASE

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Metro Area Job Data Mixed

Unemployment Rates Increase in All Metro Areas

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

| Metropolitan Area | March 2016 | March 2015 | Over-the-Year Change |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|
| Bloomington | 6.0% | 4.6% | 1.4 |
| Carbondale-Marion | 7.0% | 5.8% | 1.2 |
| Champaign-Urbana | 5.8% | 4.8% | 1.0 |
| Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights | 6.6% | 6.0% | 0.6 |
| Danville | 8.4% | 6.8% | 1.6 |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL | 6.5% | 5.7% | 0.8 |
| Decatur | 7.9% | 6.9% | 1.0 |
| Elgin | 6.8% | 6.0% | 0.8 |
| Kankakee | 7.7% | 6.9% | 0.8 |
| Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI | 6.5% | 5.8% | 0.7 |
| Peoria | 7.7% | 6.2% | 1.5 |
| Rockford | 7.7% | 6.8% | 0.9 |
| Springfield | 6.0% | 5.2% | 0.8 |
| St. Louis (IL-Section) | 6.8% | 5.9% | 0.9 |
| Illinois Statewide | 6.8% | 6.0% | 0.8 |

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO—All metropolitan areas in Illinois experienced over the year unemployment rate increases for the second consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Unemployment rates increased in more than half of the metro areas even though they experienced job growth,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “The increase in the unemployment rate was largely due to more people entering the labor force”

Illinois businesses added jobs in just eight metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+2.5 percent, +9,900), Rockford (+2.4 percent, +3,600), and Elgin (+2.3, +5,600). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.8 percent or +65,500). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Bloomington (-2.3 percent, -2,200), Danville (-0.7 percent, -200), and the Quad Cities (-0.7 percent, -1,200). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Education and Health Services (13 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (11 of 14), Retail (10 of 14), Government (10 of 14), Mining and Construction (nine of 14),

Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (nine of 14), Professional and Business Services (nine of 14), and Other Services (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares March 2016 with March 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 6.8 percent in March 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.1 percent in March 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – March 2016

| Metropolitan Area | March 2016* | March 2015** | Over-the-Year Change |
|---|-------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Bloomington MSA | 93,200 | 95,400 | -2,200 |
| Carbondale-Marion MSA | 56,900 | 57,000 | -100 |
| Champaign-Urbana MSA | 111,100 | 108,900 | 2,200 |
| Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division | 3,647,800 | 3,582,300 | 65,500 |
| Danville MSA | 29,300 | 29,500 | -200 |
| Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA | 179,600 | 180,800 | -1,200 |
| Decatur MSA | 50,500 | 50,600 | -100 |
| Elgin Metro Division | 253,600 | 248,000 | 5,600 |
| Kankakee MSA | 44,900 | 44,200 | 700 |
| Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division | 401,400 | 391,500 | 9,900 |
| Peoria MSA | 176,000 | 176,200 | -200 |
| Rockford MSA | 151,800 | 148,200 | 3,600 |
| Springfield MSA | 112,500 | 110,600 | 1,900 |
| Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA | 235,000 | 231,900 | 3,100 |
| Illinois Statewide | 5,932,300 | 5,853,200 | 79,100 |

*Preliminary **Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

| | Mar. 2016 | Mar. 2015 | Over- the-Year Change |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Decatur MSA | | | |
| Macon County | 7.9% | 6.9% | 1.0 |
| Springfield MSA | | | |
| Menard County | 6.2% | 5.0% | 1.2 |
| Sangamon County | 5.9% | 5.2% | 0.7 |
| Cities | | | |
| Decatur City | 8.4% | 7.5% | 0.9 |
| Springfield City | 6.1% | 5.4% | 0.7 |
| Counties | | | |
| Adams County | 5.5% | 4.8% | 0.7 |
| Brown County | 4.0% | 3.8% | 0.2 |
| Calhoun County | 7.5% | 7.3% | 0.2 |
| Cass County | 6.6% | 5.7% | 0.9 |
| Christian County | 7.6% | 6.4% | 1.2 |
| DeWitt County | 6.9% | 5.4% | 1.5 |
| Douglas County | 5.7% | 4.9% | 0.8 |
| Greene County | 6.9% | 6.3% | 0.6 |
| Jersey County | 6.9% | 6.2% | 0.7 |
| Logan County | 6.4% | 5.6% | 0.8 |
| Macoupin County | 7.3% | 6.4% | 0.9 |
| Montgomery County | 8.9% | 7.4% | 1.5 |
| Morgan County | 6.0% | 5.1% | 0.9 |
| Moultrie County | 5.5% | 4.0% | 1.5 |
| Piatt County | 6.1% | 4.9% | 1.2 |
| Pike County | 6.1% | 5.4% | 0.7 |
| Schuyler County | 7.0% | 6.1% | 0.9 |
| Scott County | 7.2% | 6.7% | 0.5 |
| Shelby County | 7.3% | 5.9% | 1.4 |
| Other Areas | | | |
| LWA 19 | 7.7% | 6.7% | 1.0 |
| LWA 20 | 6.2% | 5.4% | 0.8 |
| LWA 21 | 7.2% | 6.2% | 1.0 |
| Central EDR | 6.8% | 5.9% | 0.9 |

Note:

Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total nonfarm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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Central Illinois Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 7,200 positions in March and approximately 84 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

Decatur MSA

The March 2016 not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.9 percent from 6.9 percent in March 2015. There were an estimated 3,900 unemployed people in the labor force in March 2016.

The total number of nonfarm jobs in the Decatur metro area declined by -100 compared to one year ago. Payrolls increased in Educational and Health Services (+300), Leisure and Hospitality (+300), Professional and Business Services (+100), and Government (+100). Declines were reported in Construction (-400), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (-200), Manufacturing (-200), and Other Services (-100). All other major industry sectors were unchanged compared to one year ago.

Springfield MSA

The unemployment rate increased to 6.0 percent in March 2016 from 5.2 percent in March 2015. There were an estimated 6,700 unemployed people in the labor force in March 2016. The rate remains below the comparable state rate of 6.8 percent. The data is not seasonally adjusted.

The Springfield metro area nonfarm job total increased by (+1,900) compared to a year ago. Payroll increases were reported in Health Care and Social Assistance (+900), Professional and Business Services (+700), Leisure and Hospitality (+500), Government (+200), Wholesale Trade (+100), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (+100), and Construction (+100). Slight declines were reported in Financial Activities (-100), Retail Trade (-100), and Other Services (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to last year.